

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /136 W
-----056957 151412Z /47

R 141824Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3251
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 19081

USOECD

USEEC, USMTN, DEPARTMENT PASS STR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OECD, MTN, GATT
SUBJECT: GATT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON MULTILATERAL-
IZATION OF MTN AGREEMENTS.

1. GATT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LONG AND DEPUTY PATTERSON
QUESTIONED UNDER SECRETARY COOPER DURING JUNE 14
OECD MINISTERIAL ABOUT TIME TABLE FOR REACHING FINAL
UNDERSTANDINGS ON MTN ISSUES AND MULTILATERALIZING
THE NEGOTIATIONS. COOPER TOLD THEM ABOUT TRILATERAL
MEETING JUNE 19, 20, 21 AND STRAUSS' PLAN TO SPEND
FIRST WEEK IN GENEVA IN CASE JUNE MEETINGS DID NOT
SUCCEED IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES.
COOPER ALSO DISCUSSED OTHER SCENARIOS INCLUDING LEAST
DESIRABLE ONE OF REFERRING UNRESOLVED ISSUES TO
SUMMIT.

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2. LONG AND PATTERSON EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN
OVER SCENARIOS OF VARYING DEGREES OF TIGHTNESS IN
TIMING. THEY AGREED HOWEVER THAT IF TRILATERAL
AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON ALL THE MAJOR ISSUES IN JUNE
MEETING THERE WOULD BE BARELY ENOUGH TIME TO
BILATERALIZE BY JULY 15. THEY WARNED THAT OTHER

MAJOR CEREALS EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS ARE TESTY OVER BEING KEPT IN DARK ON US-EC BILATERAL TALKS ON GRAINS. MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM THEY FELT IS LDCS, ESPECIALLY MORE ADVANCED LDCS, WHO ARE VERY CONCERNED OVER SAFEGUARDS ISSUE. IN RESPONSE TO COOPER'S QUESTION THEY SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF SUBMITTING TRILATERAL AGREEMENTS AS OFFICIAL "BLUE BAND" DOCUMENTS SO THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE TO COMMENT. ANOTHER TECHNIQUE WOULD BE TO HOLD INFORMAL MULTILATERAL MEETINGS IN GENEVA ON SELECTED ISSUES ON WHICH TRILATERAL AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED. THESE ARE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE THAN BILATERAL BRIEFINGS OR MEETINGS. FURTHER, THEY HOPED THAT ANY PRE-SUMMIT STATEMENT BY STRAUSS, HAVERKAMP AND USHIBA AND THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE ITSELF SHOULD BE COINED IN SUFFICIENTLY SPECIFIC TERMS TO ASSURE THAT TRADE NEGOTIATORS CANNOT EVADE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES BUT SUFFICIENTLY GENERAL SO AS TO AVOID CHARGE OF DICTATION. LONG AND PATTERSON SERIOUSLY FEARED POSSIBILITY THAT OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD REJECT AGREEMENTS PROCLAIMED AT SUMMIT. THEY SAID SOME OF THE MORE IDEOLOGICAL LDCS WERE ALREADY WORKING BEHIND THE SCENE TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE NORTH/SOUTH CONFRONTATION OVER MTN ISSUES.

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3. COOPER IN THANKING THEM FOR THEIR ADVICE SAID WE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THEM FOR ADVICE AS WE APPROACHED THE FINAL STAGE NEXT MONTH.
SALZMAN

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NNN

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